**SEZ status to Infocity near Jatni, Orissa**

20. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government has requested the Centre for according Special Economic Zone(SEZ) status to the proposed second infocity near Jatni;

(b) if so, the status thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which the approval of the Centre would be conveyed to the State Government, if not, already done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Formal approval has been granted by the Government on 25.10.2006 for setting up of a sector specific SEZ for iT (Knowledge Park) at village Gaudakahipur and Arisal, P.S. Jatni, Tehsil-Jatni, District Khurda, Orissa by Orissa Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO) with an area of 101.8 hectares.

(c) Does not arise.

**Improving growth of manufacturing sector**

21. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre proposes to work out fresh agenda to step up manufacturing sector growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the status of manufacturing sector in Orissa and what is the action plan of the Centre to help the State to further develop this sector;

(d) what are the irritants and bottlenecks that are hindering progress in the matter; and

(e) what is the action plan of Government to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) As a result of various policy initiatives by the Government, the growth of the manufacturing sector in India has increased in the last few years. Manufacturing sector growth rate has increased from 6.8% in 2002-03 to 9.0% in 2005-06 as per the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO). The National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC), set up by the Government, has recommended a National Strategy for Manufacturing which has *inter alia* identified certain sectors such as textiles and garments, food and agro processing, Leather and footwear etc. for specific focus and initiatives. It has drawn attention to the dynamic initiatives required to be taken for boosting manufacturing growth in the country. An Empowered sub-Committee of the High Level Committee on Manufacturing (HLCM) under the Chairman of NMCC has also been constituted by the Government to implement policy recommendations of the NMCC and to ensure that bottlenecks to early implementation of policy initiatives are removed.

(c) to (e) As per Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) released by Central Statistical Organization, the manufacturing in Orissa registered a growth of 8.5% in 2002-03, 35.3% in 2003-04, 15.2% in 2004-05 and 3.3% in 2005-06.

Industrial Development in the State is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. In a market-driven economy, industrial growth, *inter-alia*, is influenced by the market forces. The Central Government supplements the efforts of State Government through specific support measures and by creating an investment conducive climate. The Central Government has put in place a liberal and transparent foreign investment regime wherein FDI up to 100% is allowed under the automatic route in most sector/industries. The Central Government schemes in operation in Orissa such as Growth Centre, Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation, Integrated Infrastructure Development, Cluster Development Programme aim at further developing the manufacturing sector.